



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**December 23, 2008
For immediate release**

NOTE TO EDITORS: EcoNewsWire, normally issued on Thursdays, is being issued early during the holiday season – on Tuesday, Dec. 23 and Wednesday, Dec. 31.

- 1. EPC gives final approval to oil filter recycling legislation**
- 2. Commercial manure applicators – sign up for training January 4**
- 3. Tier 2 reports for hazardous substances due in March**

EPC GIVES FINAL APPROVAL TO OIL FILTER RECYCLING LEGISLATION

**MEDIA CONTACT: Tom Anderson at 515-281-8623 or
Tom.Anderson@dnr.iowa.gov**

DES MOINES — Beginning Feb. 4, 2009, retailers selling oil filters in Iowa will be required to accept used oil filters from customers or post notice of the nearest location where used oil filters are accepted for recycling.

Businesses or individuals who collect used oil filters from consumers are required to separate the used oil filters from other solid waste for recycling.

“Recycling used oil filters provides a number of benefits to Iowans. Several ounces of used oil can remain in used oil filters even after being properly drained,” said Tom Anderson, DNR environmental specialist.

Recovering used oil removes it from the environment where it could possibly contaminate water and land resources. Recycling steel from oil filters conserves natural resources and assists with Iowa’s energy independence goals.

“Many businesses have been recycling their used oil filters for some time. This new law will capture thousands of additional gallons of used oil and several of tons of steel for recycling,” said Anderson.

Changes to Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 119 were approved by the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) on Dec. 9, 2008 and will become effective Feb. 4, 2009.

A copy of the rules can be viewed on the DNR Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/waste/hhm/hhmretailers.html

The DNR offers resources and information to assist businesses with the new requirements:

- Used Oil Filter Sign www.iowadnr.gov/waste/hhm/hhmretailers.html
- Used Oil Filter Collection Sites www.iowadnr.gov/waste/hhm/hhmauto.html
- Used Oil Filter Transporters and Processors www.iowadnr.gov/waste/hhm/files/transporters.pdf

#

COMMERCIAL MANURE APPLICATORS – SIGN UP FOR TRAINING JANUARY 4

MEDIA CONTACT: Jeff Prier at (712) 262-4177.

DES MOINES – Annual training for more than 1,600 commercial manure applicators is scheduled for Jan. 7 at many county Extension offices.

Commercial applicators and managers who attend the 9 a.m. to noon session will satisfy the training requirements to receive their annual certificates.

Iowa State University Extension offers the training via live satellite downlink at more than 70 Extension offices in Iowa. Four additional sites for training are available at Extension offices in Nebraska and Wisconsin.

Applicants who plan to attend should register with their local office and arrive before 9 a.m. to receive credit for the training. Commercial applicators must have a valid certificate to apply manure in Iowa.

“This is a good opportunity for training, because applicators can ask questions of the trainers and interact with each other,” said Jeff Prier who coordinates the training program for the DNR.

“Those who miss this session must watch a video prior to March 1,” he added. “Or, they have the option of taking a test at a regional DNR field office.”

A list of participating Extension offices is available on the Extension Web site at <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>. Dry manure applicators can also find information on this Web site about five February workshops specifically designed to meet their needs.

The training session is free, but those applicators who want to be certified must pay a certification fee and an education fee. They must also work for a licensed commercial manure application service.

Prier encourages applicators to attend the Jan. 7 training because videotapes may not be available until late January or early February. A late fee is charged for all currently certified applicators who renew their certificate after the March 1 deadline.

More information on requirements for applicators can be found on the DNR Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/afo/appcert.html.

Writer: Karen Grimes

#

TIER 2 REPORTS FOR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES DUE IN MARCH

MEDIA CONTACT: Elonda Bacon, EPCRA Coordinator, at 515-725-0302 or Elonda.Bacon@dnr.iowa.gov

DES MOINES — The DNR is reminding facilities and businesses required to complete Tier 2 chemical inventory reports that the reports are due by close of business on March 2, 2009.

Facilities are required to submit the report if they store hazardous substances at or above certain threshold levels. The reports are required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Reports may be submitted to the DNR beginning Jan. 2, 2009.

The DNR will accept two methods for report submissions this year. Users may use the online system or submit paper forms. In addition, there were some minor changes in the rules. A fact sheet summarizing the changes is posted on the DNR Web site.

The Web site address listed in a recent mailing was incomplete. The correct address is www.iowadnr.gov/epcra/tier2.html.

Please contact Elonda Bacon, EPCRA Coordinator, at (515) 725-0302 or Elonda.Bacon@dnr.iowa.gov with any questions.

